Villages to be connected with I.T.

†3118. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to equip the villagers with I.T. (Central Communications and Information Technology);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) in what manner the villagers would be benefited by connecting them with the I.T; and

(d) the number and the details of States likely to be connected with I.T. in the first phase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Department of Information Technology is in the process of formulating a plan to facilitate establishment of Common Services Centres (CSCs) in rural areas across the country. For this purpose, draft guidelines have been prepared which aim to promote establishment of CSCs through appropriate Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). Such Centres would have flexibility to offer **a** mix of services (from Government & non-Government including localized services) that may be needed by the local community. Other details including coverage proposed are being worked out.

Computerization of treasuries in Karnataka

3119. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the request of the Government of Karnataka for financial assistance for computerization of the Treasuries in the State is pending with Government for a long time; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the likely date by when Government's approval would be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD):

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) and (b) Department of Information Technology received a project proposal from Government of Karnataka in the year 2000 for financial support of Rs. 47.407 crores for computerization of their treasuries. Government of Karnataka was advised in December 2000 to reframe the proposal by reducing the scope to that of pilot implementation including development of software, as per the norms prevailing at that time. Government of Karnataka did not come back with the revised proposal.

Revision of Seniority List

3120. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether DoT has revised seniority list of TES Group 'B' Officers as per orders of Deptt. of Personnel and Training;

(b) list of those SC & ST Officers of MTNL, Delhi promoted TES Group 'B' post during the last three years and those of OBC category officers promoted to said post afterwards and got subsequent local officiating promotion to STS and ITS Group 'A' post;

(c) whether MTNL plans to promote all eligible SC & ST officers of ITS Group 'A' (Local Officiating) post at par with their juniors;

(d) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (e) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Purchase of GSM Interceptors

3121. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments are allowed to purchase an equipment known as GSM Interceptor from foreign companies, for the purpose of surveillance; and